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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a positive active material for a rechargeable lithium battery. The active material includes a cobalt-based compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the formulas 1 to 4. The active material has a structure of secondary particles with a size of 10 to 30 μ m and the secondary particle is gathered with primary particles with a size of 1 to 5 μ m. The active material includes a metallic oxide coated on the cobalt-based compound.

$$LiCoA_2$$
 (1)

$$LiCoO_{2-x}B_x$$
 (2)

$$LiCo_{1-x}M_xA_2 (3)$$

$$LiCo_{1-x}M_xO_{2-y}B_y (4)$$

where A is selected from the group consisting of O, S, F and P,

B is selected from the group consisting of S, F and P,

M is a transition metal selected from Al, Mg, Cr or Mn; Sr; or lanthanide metal selected from La or Ce;

$$0 < x < 1$$
 and $0 < y < 1$.